

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 012429

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:TPHY, MILL, RP, US

SUBJECT: U.S. MILITARY PARTICIPATION IN GEODETIC SURVEY
IN PHILIPPINES

1. DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN ASKED TO CONCUR IN ARRANGEMENT ON
GEODESY BETWEEN PHILIPPINE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND U.S.
DEFENSE MAPPING AGENCY. PHILIPPINE ACTION OFFICER IS
COMMODORE JAYME V. PRESBITERO, DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF COAST
AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

2. ARRANGEMENT CALLS FOR PARTICIPATION OF ONE AMERICAN
GEODESIST FROM U.S. NAVAL OCEANOGRAPHIC OFFICE (NAVOCEANO)
IN GEODETIC DOPPLER POSITIONING SURVEYS DURING PERIOD
10 MARCH TO 30 JUNE 1976 AT ELEVEN LOCATIONS SCATTERED
THROUGHOUT ARCHIPELAGO.

3. DEPARTMENT AGREES PROJECT IS WORTHWHILE AND SUPPORTS
U.S. PARTICIPATION BUT REQUESTS EMBASSY COMMENTS REGARDING
APPROPRIATENESS OF U.S. PRESENCE AT THREE OF THE PROPOSED

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ELEVEN SITES. THESE THREE SITES WERE APPARENTLY ORIGI-

NALLY SCHEDULED FOR INCLUSION IN 1975 BUT WERE NOT SURVEYED FOR UNDISCLOSED REASONS AND ARE BEING PROPOSED FOR THIS YEAR. THEY ARE: ULUGAN BAY AND ERAN BAY (BOTH ON WEST COAST OF PALAWAN ISLAND) AND BALABAC ISLAND (OFF SOUTHERN TIP OF PALAWAN). WE ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY REPORTS OF RECENT FIGHTING ON PALAWAN BUT IN VIEW OF PROXIMITY TO MUSLIM AREAS, REQUEST EMBASSY'S EVALUATION AS TO WHETHER U.S. MILITARY SCIENTIST SHOULD VISIT THE CITED SITES AS PART OF THE SURVEY PROGRAM. WOULD ALSO LIKE TO KNOW WHETHER POSTPONEMENT OF SURVEYS AT THESE THREE LOCATIONS LAST YEAR WAS IN ANY WAY CONNECTED WITH MUSLIM INSURRECTION.

KISSINGER

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